Hillstead Family Orthodontics Expands Services with Clear Braces

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DRAPER, UT - November 05, 2026 -
Hillstead Family Orthodontics has announced the availability of clear braces in Draper, UT, expanding the diagnostic and therapeutic alignment services offered at its local practice. Led by Dr. Michael Hillstead, the clinic provides orthodontic consultations, diagnostic screenings, and ongoing mechanical treatments to pediatric, adolescent, and adult patients residing throughout Draper and adjacent Salt Lake County municipalities.

Clear braces utilize brackets manufactured from monocrystalline or polycrystalline ceramic materials rather than traditional stainless steel alloys. These brackets are bonded directly to the enamel on the labial surface of the teeth using specialized dental adhesives. In standard fixed orthodontic configurations, the ceramic brackets are linked by flexible archwires?often coated or left metallic?and secured using translucent elastomeric ligatures or self-ligating clips. The mechanical assembly exerts continuous, measured force against the periodontal ligament, stimulating controlled bone remodeling and facilitating tooth movement along designated dental planes. Because the ceramic components mimic the natural translucency and shade of human tooth enamel, they present a less conspicuous external profile than standard metal fixtures while maintaining equivalent biomechanical control.

Prior to initiating treatment, Dr. Michael Hillstead and the clinical staff conduct comprehensive diagnostic evaluations to assess facial structure, jaw alignment, soft tissue profiles, and periodontal health. Standard diagnostics include panoramic radiography, cephalometric analysis, digital intraoral photography, and optical intraoral surface scanning to generate three-dimensional models of the dental arches. These records determine whether ceramic bracket configurations are clinically indicated for the specific malocclusion presented, such as dental crowding, excessive spacing, anterior crossbites, posterior crossbites, deep overbites, or excessive overjet.

Active treatment durations with ceramic bracket appliances generally range between twelve and thirty months, depending on patient age, bone density, severity of malocclusion, and treatment compliance. The biological mechanisms governing tooth movement with ceramic brackets match those of metal systems;

however, the material properties introduce distinct clinical and maintenance considerations. Ceramic materials exhibit high compressive strength but lower elasticity than metal alloys, making them more brittle under severe sheer forces. Patients receive practical guidance regarding diet and oral maintenance, including the avoidance of excessively hard, crunchy, or adhesive foods that could fracture bracket tie wings. Additionally, patients are advised on hygiene protocols to prevent plaque accumulation around brackets and minimize cosmetic discoloration of clear elastomeric ligatures caused by staining food and beverage pigments.

Alongside patient treatments, Hillstead Family Orthodontics publishes educational guides on its practice website. The web platform features informational resources describing the mechanical differences between fixed ceramic appliances, traditional metal appliances, and removable thermoplastic aligners. These articles outline expected procedural phases, diagnostic procedures, oral hygiene techniques, emergency care procedures for displaced ligatures or wire pokes, and general administrative details regarding insurance coordination and payment schedules.

Routine monitoring appointments are scheduled at intervals of four to eight weeks throughout active treatment. During these sessions, the clinician evaluates tooth trajectory, replaces elastomeric ligatures, adjusts bracket positioning if needed, and introduces progressive archwire gauges. Upon completion of active mechanical realignment, brackets are debonded using specialized removal instruments, residue adhesive is polished off the enamel, and impressions or scans are taken to fabricate post-treatment retainers to maintain the corrected archform.

Hillstead Family Orthodontics accepts new consultations for clear braces in Draper, UT. Individuals, parents, and referring providers can obtain information regarding clinical protocols, office hours, and consultation availability by contacting the practice directly by telephone or by submitting an inquiry through its web portal.
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For more information about Hillstead Family Orthodontics, contact the company here:Hillstead Family OrthodonticsHillstead Family Orthodontics(801) 800-8929hillsteadfamilyortho@gmail.comDraper, UT

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